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SECRET

The PM and Lord Home cancelled their engagements, and both will be in town. I am glad I made this decision, for both at the office and at home I was fully occupied, receiving and transmitting messages.

President Kennedy and Chairman Khrushchev are burning up the wires. This morning the latter K proposed to link the Cuban with the Turkish bases by an agreement to dismantle both of them. The former K promptly rejected the offer.

Tom Beale came out this evening with papers for me, as did Bill Clark after dinner.

October 28, 1962 - Sunday

Mac Toon came out this morning, with emergency messages to be delivered to the Prime Minister. One of them was a long telegram, hitherto not passed on, from Khrushchev to Kennedy, polemical in nature, adding little to the prospect of peaceful settlement. Another was addressed by the President to Macmillan, deGaulle and Adenauer, suggesting that Norstad remain on as Supreme Allied Commander until perhaps January 1, 1963. I am sure Laurie will be pleased to do so; I had mentioned this possibility when he was here a few days ago. He answered that if the opportunity were presented he would grasp it.

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Al Wells also came to the house to give me some useful information from Philip de Zulueta.

I worked on a roundup telegram to the Secretary, which was despatched as follows:

E returned before lunch. Immediately afterwards, Findley Burns, today's Duty Officer, telephoned to say there was coming in over the wire services an announcement by Khrushchev of his intention to dismantle the offensive weapon bases in Cuba, as well as to crate and ship to the Soviet Union the offending weapons.

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